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Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 28 | Min 20 | Humidity 71% Scattered Thunderstorms Sensex 65,387 | Nifty 19,435 | Gold 59,445 | Silver 74,001 | Dollar 82.65 | Euro 89.67 | GBP 104.72

WHEN IT RAINS

It certainly does pour; city's tryst with extreme weather continues

PAGE 3

STILL THIRSTING

No takers to supply drinking water for villages in Whitefield, Mahadevapura

PAGE 5

As study finds real wages of gig workers have dropped by 11% as compared to 2019, demand for legal framework to address their issues grows

GIG BANG THEORY

Companies employing gig workers must be accountable, union prez says

| Rachana Ramesh
c-rachana.ramesh
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A study has found that real wages of gig workers has seen a drop by 11% in comparison to 2019, highlighting the struggles faced by several such workers in the city. Gig workers' unions and labour lawyers have demanded the implementation of various promises made by the government so far, while pointing out that a specific law to address their issues is the need of the hour.

According to a study by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), real wages of gig workers across cities has seen a significant drop despite the volume of orders spiking and food-tech platforms improving their unit economics in the past few years. The survey involving 924 food delivery workers has found that real wages of gig workers has decreased by 11% to Rs 11,963 per month in 2022 in comparison to wages from 2019 due to rise in fuel costs and consumer price inflation.

The study has however noted that the nominal income of the surveyed food delivery workers has risen by 4% to Rs 20,026 in 2022 from Rs 19,239 per month in 2019.

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"The government must have a grip on these companies. They are currently functioning on their own whims and fancies without any accountability

– Vinay Sarathi, United Food Delivery Partners' Union

Horn, not okay please

Just 1,362 cases filed at various police stations in city against vehicles using shrill horns last year

| Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Between April 2022 and January 2023, a little over 7.9 lakh vehicles across Karnataka were checked for noise pollution and cases were registered against as many as 16,107 vehicles. The Karnataka Transport Department also collected Rs 3.25 crore as fine.

Similarly, as per information provided by Bengaluru Traffic Police in response to an RTI filed, 1,362 cases were registered at various police stations between January and December 2022 against vehicles with shrill horns, and nearly Rs 6.86 lakh was collected as the fine amount.

Maximum cases were registered at Yeshwanthpur station (92), followed by Electronics City station (88), Rajajinagar (82), Pulikeshinagar (77), and Shivajinagar station (75). However, out of 44 traffic police stations, 10 stations registered less than 10 cases in one year. Netizens and no-honking activists say that 384 shrill-honking cases registered over 180 days across the city are less than the tip of the iceberg.

However, anti-noise pollution activists say this number is the tip of the iceberg. Much more needs to be done to bring down vehicular noise pollution levels.

"Cases against just 16,000 vehicles over a year is a very small number looking at the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Classical form

The Bangalore Kidney Foundation (BKF) is back with its 18th edition of 'Dhwani', a Hindustani music festival conducted in memory of the association the legendary Hindustani singer late Pandit Mallikarjun Mansur had with BKF. The musical event helps in sustaining free dialysis for poor patients and adding to the corpus, which makes BKF meet its objectives. This year, proceeds from the 18th Dhwani will be used to provide affordable dialysis to patients' from rural dialysis centres. **Where: JSS Auditorium, Jayanagar 8th block; When: Today (5 pm to 9:05 pm); tomorrow (10:15 am to 12:15 pm in morning), (5:30 to 9:30 pm in evening)**

02 Plays of betrayal

With its successful shows in Mumbai and Delhi, Aadyam Theatre is coming to Bengaluru for the first time. This theatre initiative by Aditya Birla Group will be presenting 'Betrayal', a masterful play written by Harold Pinter. The production is directed by Rachel D'Souza. **Where: Ranga Shankara; When: September 15 (7:30 pm); September 16 (3:30 pm and 7:30 pm)**

03 Bengali masterpiece

Get ready to watch a very interesting Bengali dance drama this Sunday. Bhanushingher Padaboli by Rabindranath Tagore is based on the divine interplay of Radha and Krishna. The music is based on the weather changes in monsoon. **Where: Prabhath Kaladwaraka Auditorium, Koramangala; When: September 3; 10:30 am**

A battle for quiet

High Court hears petition regarding nuisance created by hostel students at Chelekere; residents say their peace and tranquillity has been disrupted

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The nursing students' hostel is managed by Ramakrishna Education Trust on 2nd Cross, Chelekere, near Kalyan Nagar

Karnataka High Court on Tuesday directed the registry to send the order copy to the Registrar of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences for taking action against nursing students who are creating nuisance to the residents.

Hearing a petition on the nuisance created by nursing students of Ramakrishna Education Trust, the High Court Judge has directed the registry to send a copy of the court order to the Registrar of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences by Speed Post immediately for taking action against the students creating nuisance if necessary by debarring them from taking up examinations.

Annoyed by the nuisance and sound pollution caused by the nursing students who are staying at a hostel managed by Ramakrishna Education Trust on 2nd Cross, Chelekere, near Kalyan Nagar, some residents have filed a petition in the High Court seeking direction from the authorities concerned to ensure no nuisance by the nursing students.

The High Court has issued an interim stay order on June 30, 2023, on a writ petition filed by the Ramakrishna Education Trust against the notice issued by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). The BBMP, based on a complaint from the residents, has issued a notice to the Ramakrishna Education Trust to vacate the hostel within three days.

An advocate representing Ramakrishna Education Trust has submitted to the High Court that his client would take all precautions to ensure that the students do not cause a nuisance. The High Court Judge said the interim order granted earlier shall continue, subject to the condition that the students shall not be permitted to create nuisance or sound pollution. "If the petitioner fails to ensure peace and tranquillity in the hostel, it automatically stands rescinded," the judge said.

The residents complain that they are not able to live in peace and tranquillity due to the nuisance caused by the students staying in the hostel. "Students are seen either chatting loudly or smoking cigarettes. It has become difficult for us to live here due to the nuisance caused by them," said Rajendra Prasad K, a resident.

> **"Students are seen either chatting loudly or smoking cigarettes. It has become difficult for us to live here**
> – Rajendra Prasad K, a resident

Expressing a similar opinion, Ravi Kumar, a resident, said the students are causing noise pollution on the road. "It has become tough for us to walk on the road. Students are seen in groups talking loudly and smoking cigarettes. There was a commercial establishment on this road. The BBMP authorities have succeeded in vacating it from this area," explained Kumar.

Furthermore, Srikumar K, another resident, said that his elderly parents could not sleep at night due to the noise pollution. "My house is situated opposite the nursing students' hostel," informed Srikumar.

Health on wheels: Just for infants

Minister of Health and Family Welfare inaugurates neonatal transport service

Dinesh Gundu Rao, Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Karnataka, inaugurated Manipal Ambulance Response Service—Neonatal Care on Wheels (MARS-NOW) on Friday.

Dr H Sudarshan Ballal (Chairman, Manipal Hospitals) said, "This comprehensive neonatal transport service is designed to provide continuous medical support to infants requiring emergency Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) care during transportation to the hospital. It serves not only Manipal Hospitals' patients but also individuals residing in Bengaluru and the peripheral regions of Karnataka."

He added that India currently faces an infant mortality rate of 26.619 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2023, with many infants succumbing while en route to hospitals. MARS-NOW addresses this issue by equipping ambulances with NICU facilities.

The comprehensive neonatal transport service was inaugurated on Friday; the ambulances are staffed with neonatal consultants, transport registrars, nurses

Dr Karthik Nagesh, Chairman and HOD of Neonatology, said, "The four ambulances are staffed with neonatal consultants, transport registrars, paramedics, and nurses. Two ambulances were dedicated to in-house patients, while the others are strategically stationed within the city, ensuring swift access to nearby hospitals." Actress Tara Anuradha was also present. **— BMB**

September is here with a splash

45 minutes of rain was thrice that of whole of August

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

In a surprising turn of events, rain gods seem to be both setting and breaking new records in the city. According to Bengaluru Weather tweets Bengaluru has seen both extremes in a matter of days.

"After enduring the driest August in history, Bengaluru experienced widespread moderate to heavy rainfall on Thursday night. The IMD recorded nearly 50 mm of precipitation in just 45 minutes, surpassing the total rainfall for the entire 30 days of August by three times," read an update from Bengaluru Weather.

According to another of its posts, the city's observatory witnessed its wettest day of the year, recording 88.9 mm of rainfall by 8:30 am on Friday. "This amounts to 42.6% of the average September rainfall. Meanwhile, the HAL and KIAL observatories recorded 68.3 mm and 46.4 mm of rainfall, respectively."

IMD Scientist A Prasad told BM, that they have provided an extended forecast for September. "According to our predictions, Karnataka can expect normal rainfall in September, though a few districts in north interior Karnataka may receive above-average rainfall. During the second week of September, western ghats districts are likely to experience excess rainfall, while north interior districts may also receive an abundance of rainfall. This could potentially offset the rain deficit from August," he said.

According to him, in the third week of September, coastal districts may receive excess rainfall, while other districts might see average or below-average rainfall. "For the next two days, we anticipate heavy rainfall, prompting a yellow alert for some districts in south interior Karnataka. Currently, a trough at an altitude of 900 metres is expected to bring heavy rainfall to the southern interior regions."

Prasad said that overall, the state has a 22% rainfall deficit from June 1, with south interior districts facing a more severe 34% deficit. "We can cautiously say that September may not be as dry as August. In 2016, the rain deficit reached as high as 47% in the state, and in 2014, there was a 22% rain deficit during the monsoon period. This year's situation is comparatively better."

Record temperature in city

Regarding the rising temperatures in August, Prasad explained, the increase in temperature can be attributed to a monsoon trough consistently seen near the foothills of the Himalayas, resulting in dry weather across the country. "This, coupled with El Niño transitioning from neutral in July to a weak to moderate condition in August, further exacerbated the dry spell. Additionally, other weather patterns, such as low-pressure areas and troughs, conducive to bringing rainfall, were notably absent. As an example, Bengaluru experienced above-average temperatures for 20 out of 31 days in August," he said.

The city's average daytime peak temperature is 28.1 degrees Celsius, but it exceeded 30 degrees Celsius for more than 20 days, reaching as high as 32.6 degrees Celsius on August 29. "This marked the highest daytime temperature recorded in the last decade. The all-time high temperature for Bengaluru in August was 33.3 degrees Celsius, recorded on August 6, 1899," he said.

Prasad then turned focus to Bengaluru's September weather, stating, "Over the next five days, Bengaluru may receive light to moderate rainfall, with the intensity expected to peak in the next two days. Historically, while the rest of the state experiences heavy rainfall from June to August, Bengaluru receives its highest rainfall in September, averaging 200 mm. September in Bengaluru typically brings rainfall accompanied by lightning and thunder showers."

Get ready

Meanwhile, recognising the challenges September poses for Bengaluru, BBMP administrator Rakesh Singh has urged officials on Friday to be proactive. He directed engineers from different zones to conduct meetings with officials and inspect areas around Rajakaluves. Officials have been tasked with preparing for potential issues and addressing areas that reported water logging due to Thursday night's rainfall.

AI at your service at airport T2

The Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) will now be assisting with issues such as unattended luggage and monitoring queues with the help of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the recently launched Terminal 2. Currently, AirAsia, Air India, Star Air and Vistara are providing their services in Terminal 2 as it is yet to commence international operations alone.

Nvidia Corporation, an American multinational technology company in a blog post on August 30, said, "A member of the NVIDIA Metropolis vision AI partner ecosystem, Industry.AI has deployed its vision AI platform across Bengaluru's newest terminal, T2, known as the garden terminal for its green spaces, indoor gardens, and waterfalls. It's one of the first deployments of intelligent video analytics at scale in an Indian airport." The post further explained that Industry.AI platform enables connection between more than 500 live camera feeds across the Terminal 2 to vision AI technologies that have the ability to carry out various tasks in real-time.

"AI increases the safety and efficiency of the terminal's operations by using vision AI and object detection to track abandoned baggage, flag long passenger queues and alert security teams about potential issues, among other use cases," the blog post said. "By identifying congestion points and anticipating delays with vision AI, staff can proactively redirect passengers to less crowded areas or provide signals to open additional checkpoints, reducing wait times and enhancing passenger experiences," it added.

Industry.AI also has the ability to identify unauthorised individuals and vehicles in the premises of the airport, further reporting it to the platform's user to enhance security. It can also detect speed violations made by vehicles outside the terminal, enabling safe travel around the airport too. **BMB**

Advertorial

TAPOVANA

Tapovana Hospital: A ray of hope for central Karnataka

De-addiction treatment for 6000 people in two decades

Loving care at Davanagere Doddabati Tapovana

Dr. Shashikumar Meherwade
President, Tapovana Hospital

Tapovana, located in the beautiful surroundings of Doddabati in Davanagere, has an addiction-free centre. Those addicted to drugs and those who are unable to get rid of alcohol and smoking are treated here and relieved of the addiction. Not only Davanagere, but there have been instances of addicts from various other districts of the state including Bengaluru, Belagavi, Dharwad and others being admitted to this centre.

The treatment at the centre varies from one to three months. For the first ten days, rigorous treatment means detoxification to remove the substance of drugs from their body. This is an important treatment, because as long as the drug content is in the body, the body longs for more. So, by detoxification, the person slowly returns to normalcy, after which the work of suppressing the mind through counselling, yoga and meditation is done," said Dr. Shashikumar Meherwade, chairman of Tapovana Institute.

Contact No for admission: 8884488204
Address : Tapovana Hospital, Doddabati, Davanagere

Diseases which are treated in Tapovana

- Stroke and other Neurological disorders.
- Anxiety, Depression and Memory loss.
- Diabetes, cough, asthma, allergies and infertility.
- Obesity and its effects. Piles and fissures
- Ear, Nose, Throat problems, Cancer, Thyroid problem
- Eye care and Cosmetic therapy.
- Gynecological diseases, white menstruation, menstrual defects, PCOD
- Swarnabindu Prasana (on Pushya Nakshatra of every month)
- Rheumatism, spondylosis, Joint pain
- Dysentery, gastric, liver diseases, bladder problems. Psoriasis, Dermatitis

REARVIEW MIRROR

Write to us at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com

Into the sound

There does exist a global groove where all sounds point to the universal harmonics. It is the secret charm of any piece of music, the universality of the sound. We do come across these quite often in our listening, but it is natural to overlook them for certain traps that hold our attention thanks to the sheer loudness and bravado.

Certain artists have explored such sounds and produced timeless classics that transcend borders and boundaries of the mind. The moment you hear such a record, you figure out the place of such music in the world. The arrangement in most cases are strikingly simple and effortless but of mind bending profundity.

At some level such musicality breaks all human constructs of division, profiling or othering while softly proclaiming the unifier that music is, Coke Studio performances for instance.

So what are you listening to? Oft-heard phrase this, if you are the kind that explores sound. The sounds of the past kind of define the sounds of the future. Straddling the two are certain artists who delve deep into the music that came before them to shape the future of musicality. But rarely does the harmony fall in place and make sense.

One of the greatest sounds of late we have listened to perhaps is of the artist who goes by the name The Weeknd. It is not quite often that a pop artist achieves a sound so refined that they prove seminal to the artists that come after them.

Now that we speak of sound, it often throws up a sort of distinct sensual memory that we want to return to - perhaps why we listen to certain songs again and again.

In the overtly linked world of today, where sounds often turn into a sort of overwhelming cacophony, to decipher and be inspired from the sounds of the past and reproduce them in music or rather adapt them to certain musicality or cultural scape are quite the challenges but nonetheless not unattainable.

Such a sound of the future is of AP Dhillon that Rearview Mirror chanced upon of late. So what makes this Indo-Canadian-Punjabi artist's musicality novel? Maybe it is the music that displays certain tonal qualities uniquely reflecting the sound of the times or what should ideally be the sound of the times.

Most interestingly, what Dhillon has achieved is outstanding: to augment the nuances of Punjabi music, with a much needed push of incorporating elements of the quintessential trends that have driven music of the past into the future, from the time of DJ's like Giorgio Moroder and Daft

Punk. The person and the band mentioned have been seminal in forging the 'sound of the future' as Moroder himself put it in one of the tracks he collaborated to make with Daft Punk.

One could call it the science of good music - essentially the Moroder or Daft Punk approach. This is exactly what Dhillon has done with his music - it unravels so soothingly and gracefully in his tracks such as - With You, Summer High and Dil Nu - that one is instantly hooked to the qualities that elevate such a collection of sounds to the global groove if you like.

The tweaks that make this musicality are sublime and poignant: not many artists have achieved such subliminal charm in the entire string of musicians from around the world; and those who have truly, belong in the jazz, blues, soul, funk and perhaps the reggae schools. At times come to think of it, in down tempo too.

It is not often that popular music transcends the usual traps and appeals to the discerning listener. Somehow Dhillon's tunes are so sombre to the ear but seemingly not devoid of the raw ingenuity one expects from a Punjabi tune - for instance in Brown Munde, a song so political, Dhillon provides the mellow touch.

The bluesy background score that embellishes Brown Munde lifts the whole experience into something that announces the coming of age of Indian hiphop: the attitude many musicians in the subcontinent have been in search for a very long time, not that it was lacking in certain genres as the ghazal, sufi or other Hindustani traditions, but quintessentially something that would express the angst of the youth caught in the neoliberal churn for survival.

Perhaps the key lies in the musical arrangement. The minimalism of weeding all the unwanted and most often nonsensical sampling and sticking to the refined vocals alongside the optimum rhythm and bass if you will. In essence, Dhillon's music reveals how good a listener as an artist he is and how inspired and open to the nuances of other musical genres.

Perhaps the same approach evident in many musical traditions - especially the Hindustani classical school - was most likely lost in time.

BBMP cracks down on builders' weird flex

Action taken against real estate developers for putting up unauthorised hoardings

Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

File photo of BBMP workers bundling up illegal hoardings into a vehicle to dispose of them

In its crackdown against flex banners across the city, the BBMP plans to go after unauthorised hoardings erected outside under-construction real estate properties.

As BM had reported earlier the drive against illegal flexes has kicked off in Mahadevapura Zone. BBMP officials filed 90 complaints and 86 FIRs in KR Puram and Mahadevapura region during the drive from August 1. The Palike also took action against some real estate developers who had displayed flex banners outside the construction zone.

"We have been removing illegal flex banners from our office. We have also taken action against some real estate developers. If the real estate board is displayed on the under-construction property, it is fine. The banner usually has information on the building coming up and how many floors have been planned, and so on, but it cannot be displayed on roads. If they want to display it, they should get permission from BBMP," said BBMP Joint Commissioner, Dakshayini K.

Assistant Commissioner (Advertisement) Sridhar Murthy also told BM that such flex banners without prior BBMP permission are illegal. "Only with permission, such flex banners are legal. We are only providing permission for flex banners under the PPP model and we are not providing outside the model," he added.

Currently, BBMP can penalise the offenders to up to Rs 50,000 for each offence.

Activists say that lack of political will is the reason for the never-ending problem of flex banners. "Political leaders need to decide to not use flexes as they are primarily responsible for the mess. Out of the lot, 90 per cent of flex banners will be featuring political leaders. I had also tweeted to PM Modi highlighting the issue. However, penalties cannot solve the problem as it adds to the corruption. There should be sterner steps like cancellation of advertising rights for some time to act as a deterrent," said Datta Saraf, a city-based RTI activist.

He added that instead of flex banners, BBMP should consider allowing the electronic display of advertisements in public places.

Sandeep Anirudhan said that to create deterrence, BBMP must make routine drives. "The problem with BBMP is that they need to be consistent in their fight against flex banners to create deterrence. Every ward engineer should be held accountable for the area and every week, inspections must happen. Ward engineers should take pictures of ward roads and make sure they are free of flex banners. Weekly reporting and FIR filing against offenders will create deterrence. If citizens only get FIRs every six months or one year, the issue can't be resolved. Mostly, the flex banners are installed by ad agencies and when routine action is taken against the clients, the practice will be dropped," he added.

Anirudhan added that the Palike should also consider using technology to report illegal flex banners automatically.

> **"Penalties cannot solve the problem as it adds to the corruption. There should be sterner steps** –Datta Saraf, RTI activist

Metro Mitra, coming soon

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The much-awaited Metro Mitra application is set to be launched on September 6, providing relief to metro commuters who often find it troublesome to find autos for first and last mile connectivity.

An interesting feature of the beta version is downloads not being required. Instead, commuters arriving at metro stations will have to locate Metro Mitra QR codes in the premises and scan it to make use of the service. Once the QR code is scanned, users will be directed to a link that will display prominent landmarks within a five-kilometre radius of the station. Further, users will have to choose their desired landmark, after which a one-time password will be generated for the designated ride. Along with this, vehicle and driver details will also be provided to the commuter before the auto arrives at the metro station for pick up. On the other hand, auto rickshaw drivers will be equipped with the Metro Mitra application.

One will have to pay charges levied according to the meter fare authorised by the government, along with a Rs 10 flat charge for the application's service. The extra amount will be used to cover costs of application maintenance and to compensate for the distance auto drivers may need to cover to complete a ride. Initially, the services will be available only to those who are departing from a metro station. The developers are also collaborating with the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to integrate the application's services with the Whatsapp chatbot. At present, the chatbot allows purchase of tickets as well as recharge of Metro cards.

Whitefield, Mahadevapura villages left thirsting

As borewells dry up in 23 villages, BBMP fails to find suppliers of drinking water

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) authorities are finding it tough to supply drinking water to 23 villages in Whitefield and Mahadevapura areas as not many private water tanker owners are inclined to participate in the tender process.

The BBMP floated a short-term tender inviting bidders to supply drinking water to 23 villages in July. These villages were added to the BBMP in 2007. Unfortunately, the tender process has failed to attract any interested parties, leading the BBMP to reissue the tender for the third time. The allocated budget for supplying drinking water to these villages stands at Rs 1.90 crore.

"We have floated the short-term tender twice before, but there has been no response. We recently initiated the process for the third time on August 28, hoping that water suppliers would finally participate." BBMP Mahadevapura Division executive engineer Muni Reddy said.

The BBMP decided to supply drinking water to the villages such as Balagere, Bellandur Amanikere, Byrathi, Belthur, Channasandra, Devarabeesanahalli, Gunjur, Hagadur, Horamavu, Kalkere, Kadubeesanahalli, Kayammana Agrahara, Khanekandya, Kumbena Agrahara, K Channasandra, Nayandahalli, Panathur, Ramagondanahalli, Siddapura, Sorahunise, Tubarahalli, Varthur, and Varanasi Colony. However, no private water supplier evinced interest in supplying water to Byrathi village in Belathur ward, Tubarahalli village in Munnekollala ward, Bellandur, Ambalipura and Ambalipura village, Aralur, Kasavanahalli in Doddakannalli ward, Boganahalli in Munnekolala ward, and surrounding villages of Varthur ward.

The BBMP has allocated Rs 10 lakh for supplying drinking water to Byrathi village, Rs 10 lakh for Kadubeesanahalli and Tubarahalli, Rs 10 lakh for Bellandur, Rs 10 lakh for Ambalipura, Rs 5 lakh for Haraluru, Rs 10 lakh for Kasavanahalli, Rs 10 lakh for Bhoganahalli, and Rs 30 lakh for villages surrounding Varthur.

BBMP executive engineer Muni Reddy said that many borewells dug up by the BBMP have dried up and digging borewells is not viable. "We have decided to supply drinking water through private water tankers. The people participating in the tender process have to supply drinking water during this year," he said.

> **"The BBMP prefers water suppliers from other areas to supply drinking water in and around Varthur. It is more viable to select suppliers from here**
>
> –Jagadeesh Reddy, Varthur Rising

Meanwhile, residents of Kalkere said the BBMP officials have failed to maintain the borewells dug up with tax-payers money. "They took more than a month to repair a defunct borewell. We are yet to get Cauvery water. So, we have to depend on borewell water supplied by the BBMP or private water tankers for water," said a resident pleading anonymity.

According to Jagadeesh Reddy of Varthur Rising, many borewells in and around Varthur have dried up.

The deadline for submitting queries is September 2, tenders must be in by September 11, and financial bids will be openon September 12e.

Malpractice: HC nullifies election of Prajwal

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday invalidated the election of Prajwal Revanna, a Member of Parliament representing the Janata Dal (Secular) in Hassan. On Friday, the court's decision came as a result of two petitions filed by G Devarajegowda, a voter in the constituency, and A Manju, the former BJP candidate who contested against Revanna in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

Justice K Natarajan, while partially allowing the petitions, also directed the Election Commission of India to take action against Prajwal Revanna for election malpractice as per the Conduct of Election Process Rules.

The petitions contended that Revanna engaged in election malpractice and failed to disclose his assets to the Election Commission. In his ruling, Justice K Natarajan declared Prajwal Revanna's election null and void.

However, Justice K Natarajan found that Revanna had engaged in election malpractice and failed to disclose his assets to the Election Commission. The judge also directed the Election Commission to take action against Revanna's father, HD Revanna, and his brother, Suraj Revanna, for election malpractice. The petitions had cited numerous instances of malpractice and the non-declaration of assets by Prajwal Revanna. **BMB**

CCTVs at immersion ponds to keep Ganeshotsav secure

| Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

File photo of Ganesha idols in the Kalyani at Ulsoor Lake

Bengaluru is gearing up for Ganeshotsav, a festival celebrated not only in many homes but also in public places. This means that the authorities need to be more vigilant to ensure smooth festivities. To prepare for this, BBMP has decided to establish a committee comprising representatives from BBMP, Police, BESCOM, and Fire officials. This committee will oversee the setup of monitoring centres across 63 subdivision offices of the BBMP.

A meeting led by BBMP's Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath was conducted to discuss precautionary measures for the upcoming festival. Nath stated, "I have instructed officials to ensure proper arrangements for the immersion of Ganesha idols in designated water bodies such as Sankey Lake, Ulsoor, Yediyur, and Hebbal lakes. Recognising that some lakes are distant from residential areas, we have suggested the installation of temporary mobile disposal units (mobile tanks) at key locations and intersections within each zone, as well as wherever necessary, to facilitate the disposal of smaller idols. I emphasised the importance of systematic barricading around the designated immersion sites and Kalyani premises. Additionally, arrangements should be made to deploy skilled swimmers and necessary staff on rotating shifts at all immersion centres. The installation of CCTV cameras and electrical infrastructure at these locations was also recommended to enhance safety measures. To manage waste, including puja materials like flowers, banana leaves, and other items collected at disposal centres, officials were directed to ensure that cleaning staff and transport vehicles are equipped to collect and dispose of these materials properly in designated containers."

He added that preparations for boats, irrigation pumps, and cranes were highlighted to facilitate the smooth immersion of idols, along with arrangements for a police presence. Police officers were instructed to take necessary actions to prevent the use of firecrackers, loud music, and unruly behaviour during the procession. "A strict prohibition was reiterated on the manufacturing of Ganesha idols using chemical paints, thermocol, and plaster of Paris within the Corporation's jurisdiction. Appropriate actions, including fines, were recommended for those found using these materials in prohibited areas. I have given clear instructions in permission orders for installations, removals, and cleanliness. The use of plastic, as well as the installation of flags and banners in public spaces, is strictly prohibited, and we seek the public's cooperation. We urge Bengalureans to worship eco-friendly idols and to use designated locations for idol immersion to prevent pollution in the lake," he said.

Nelamangala Road infrastructure to get bridge boost

Multiple railway over bridges and under bridges being planned at key spots in area

For the growth of any area, infrastructure projects play a key role. Now, the infrastructure projects in and around Nelamangala are set to receive a boost with a number of railway over bridges (ROBs) and railway under bridges (RUBs) being planned. As per the latest data, multiple ROBs and RUBs are under construction and expected to be open to traffic soon.

One of the projects in Bengaluru Rural involves the construction of a grade separator, serving as a replacement for a railway level crossing on NH-207. This project is part of the four-lane development of NH-207, covering a stretch of approximately 41.50 km from Tamil Nadu/Karnataka Border to Hoskote. In the vicinity of Bangalore Rural, another railway bridge is currently underway to replace a level crossing on NH-648 as part of the four-lane expansion from Doddaballapur Bypass to Hoskote. This particular section covers approximately 38 kilometers and falls within NH-648 (Old NH-207), also known as Bengaluru Ring Road Package two.

Furthermore, in Bengaluru Rural, several railway bridges are being constructed to replace level crossings on NH-48. This significant project is part of the six-laning initiative, with access control from KM 29.435 to KM 74.168 of Nelamangala-Tumkur, including the Tumkur Bypass section of NH-48 (Old NH-4). The stretch covered in this development is approximately 44.73 kilometers. In addition to these projects, another railway bridge is being constructed in the Dabaspet to Doddaballapur area, replacing a level crossing on NH-207. Various ROBs are also part of the four-lane expansion on NH-207 from KM 0.00 to KM 42.00 of the Dabaspet to Doddaballapur bypass section (Old NH-207). Lastly, a two-lane ROB and its approaches are being constructed to replace the existing level crossing on NH 207 near Koralur.

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A NHAI official said, "These projects aim to enhance connectivity, improve traffic flow, and ensure safer transportation in and around Bengaluru. The construction of these bridges in and around Bengaluru will bring significant benefits to vehicle users, commuters, and the transportation system as a whole. "First and foremost, grade separators provide an uninterrupted passage for vehicles over or under the railway tracks, eliminating the need to wait for trains to pass at level crossings," explained the NHAI officials. "This seamless flow of traffic helps vehicle users avoid delays and reduces the time spent waiting at railway crossings, especially during peak hours when train frequencies are higher."

He said by avoiding the waiting time at level crossings, the overall travel time for commuters and transportation of goods is significantly reduced. "This enhanced efficiency translates to cost savings for businesses and increased productivity for the economy as a whole. Commuters will experience quicker and smoother journeys, leading to improved daily routines and enhanced quality of life."

Realtors acknowledge that the construction of infrastructure projects in and around Bengaluru will play a crucial role in enhancing the transportation infrastructure and thereby boosting the demand for the sector. "As many residents of core Bengaluru are moving to the outskirts to build sprawling houses, these infrastructure projects will provide seamless passage for vehicles over or under the railway tracks," explained Avinash Gowda, a realtor.

"These projects will save time for vehicle users, improve safety, and boost efficiency and connectivity in the region. This not only benefits individual commuters and businesses but also contributes to the overall development and progress of the area's transportation sector," he added.

-Prakash VL

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Home loan interest relief soon

The Indian government is set to introduce a new interest subsidy scheme for home loans in urban areas this September, aiming to provide relief to the poor and middle-class segments. Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri revealed that the details of the scheme are being finalised and will be disclosed soon. This comes after PM Narendra Modi's Independence Day speech, in which he outlined the plan to assist families living in rented houses.

Kanakapura Road is turning all home buyers' destination

If you are planning to buy property at affordable places, consider heading to Kanakapura Road. Many properties have become available at budget-friendly prices, boasting of all the necessary infrastructure amenities. Additionally, assistance is available for purchasing properties through bank loans, and the area offers excellent connectivity.

Realtor Nandeesh Kumar stated, "Many people are now considering Bengaluru South to purchase property, with Kanakapura Road emerging as a favourite destination for property buyers."

According to Kumar, several factors contribute to this trend. "Firstly, the Metro has been extended to Kanakapura Road, making travel from the core parts of the city to Kanakapura Road much easier. Previously, commuting from one end of the road to the city was quite challenging, but thanks to the Metro, travel has become smoother.

With the Metro expansion in phases two and three, Kanakapura Road will not only be connected to various parts of the city but also to the airport, allowing passengers to change multiple trains for easy airport access.

Thanks to the Outer Ring Road and NICE Road, traveling between different peripheries has become more convenient," he said.

For example, someone from Kanakapura Road heading to a place like Tumakuru can now use the NICE Road and cross the city limits within 30 to 40 minutes. "Similarly, NICE road provides easy access to Magadi, Mysuru, Bannerghatta, and Hosur roads. These developments have led to increased property buying interest in Kanakapura road."

"NICE road provides easy access to Magadi, Mysuru, Bannerghatta, and Hosur roads. These developments have led to increased property buying interest

Realtor Dinesh Babu added that Kanakapura Road benefits from excellent BMTC connectivity, with both BMTC and KSRTC buses serving this route.

"The frequency is so good that you can catch a bus within minutes. As more people prefer public transport over personal vehicles, many properties are located near bus stops to facilitate easy commuting for personal or professional use.

This is another reason why many people are interested in buying properties near bus stops. Overall, Kanakapura Road stands out not only for its infrastructure projects but also for its excellent connectivity and abundant greenery, making it one of the best places to buy property."

Leasing sector

Furthermore, it's not just property that's on the rise in Bengaluru's market; robust retail leasing growth is also helping businessmen invest in property. According to a recent report, the retail leasing sector in Bengaluru experienced impressive growth, with a 24% year-on-year (Y-o-Y) increase during the Jan-Jun'23 period. This marked a 15% increase compared to the Jul-Dec'22 period. The total leasing activity during Jan-Jun'23 reached 2.87 million square feet, a significant improvement from the previous year's 2.31 million square feet.

CBRE's 'India Market Monitor Q2 2023' highlighted the significant roles played by Bengaluru, Delhi-NCR, and Ahmedabad, accounting for a substantial 65% share in leasing activity during the first half of the year.

The Jan-Jun' 23 period also witnessed a remarkable 148% Y-o-Y increase in supply, with total supply reaching 1.09 million square feet, compared to 0.44 million square feet in the previous year.

A realtor stated, "In the Apr-Jun'23 quarter, Bengaluru and Delhi-NCR dominated retail space leasing, capturing a combined share of 59%. Bengaluru emerged as the leader, securing an impressive 35% share in overall leasing, followed by Delhi-NCR with 24%. These encouraging figures underscore the resilience and potential of Bengaluru's retail market, making it a key player in India's growing retail landscape. With ongoing developments and favorable consumer trends, Bengaluru remains a prominent destination for retail businesses seeking expansion and growth opportunities."

-Prakash VL

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

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STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

WINGS' REFLECTION

A great cormorant flying above Doddanekundi lake

The picture was clicked by reader **Vijita Asher**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Trashy legacy continues...

Residents of Kacharakanahalli are troubled by growing issue of waste disposal; garbage attracts rodents

Garbage dumping in Kacharakanahalli is causing a lot of inconvenience and health hazards for the residents. The accumulation of waste attracts rodents, insects, and stray animals. The smell coming from the garbage further pollutes the quality of air in society, making it hard to breathe. Moreover, the garbage acts as a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

"We are so fed up with the BBMP at this point. We have been complaining for a long time, and action hasn't been taken. It stinks to walk on the road. We all have our own inconvenience in the morning when we go to work, and this adds on to that, which is getting worse day by day," said Manjula, a local resident. Furthermore, residents said that despite complaining to BBMP, no action has been taken.

"We have only one concern in the area, and that is garbage in this place. It's been so many days since we have been complaining, and I don't see any changes. I don't really get how BBMP works, so, I would like to understand more about this and file a genuine complaint," said Nishanth Kuruba, another resident.

"It gets worse during the rainy season. The garbage is first of all a burden; above that, the stagnant water, which makes it worse, plus these increasing mosquito problems, are also major issues in this area. Now I hope BBMP does something that can make this a better place for all of us," said Shantamma, a local grocery shop owner.

Many said that they trust BBMP and are waiting for the clearance to be carried out in the area. "The government changed, the chief minister changed, and new rules have come.

I trust this government as well as the BBMP, which has been working day and night for the betterment of the people. Let's just give them some time; they'll do their job," said Jagdish, another local resident.

The BBMP has been urged to take immediate action to clear the garbage and prevent further health hazards. The residents have also requested the government provide more awareness about the importance of waste management, he added.

— Dankan N

The area emanates a strong stench and acts as a breeding ground for mosquitoes

DID YOU KNOW?

Hebbal, one of the popular neighbourhoods, is considered to be the oldest inhabited area in the city. Many historians say that Kempegowda took the name Bengaluru from a place that was located northwest of Hebbal Lake. Currently, Hebbal is seen as one of the most well-connected areas in the city. It also has GKVK University, various tech offices, and shopping destinations in its vicinity. Located in north Bengaluru, it is also known for the Hebbal Lake, which adds a beautiful look to the city while crossing the area. Places like RT Nagar, Kempegowda International Airport, Yelhanka, and more are connected to the area.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

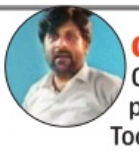
9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

What do you think of the rules in Cubbon Park- too interfering or much needed?



Girish, BM Reader
Cubbon Park is one of the oldest parks in Bengaluru for hangouts. Today, many people like to visit Cubbon Park for recreational purposes like walking and yoga. Rules are needed because they make the public disciplined.

Kowsalya, BM Reader
Certain rules, like not taking pictures, feeding animals, or throwing trash on the road, are followed by most parks. But Cubbon Park banned eatables, like no food items from hotels, and many people frowned regarding this rule.

Lokesh, BM Reader
Rules are made to protect and serve citizens and act as guidelines. If the public follows the rule made by authorities, the environment can be preserved in the park, and a clean, healthy atmosphere will be created.

Mangala M, BM Reader
For dog lovers, separate times should be allotted. Dog owners must tie their dogs with a leash while walking. This doesn't cause any fear among other people. Dog owners must teach dogs to do their business in the allotted space.

Rathna, BM Reader
Banning eatables was a good decision taken by the authorities. People throw plastic and used cans on the roads, which disturbs walkers and joggers and also affects the environment.

Shivleela Maruthi, BM Reader
Photos and videos are taken to keep the place memorable. If it is banned, authorities should provide alternative solutions, like hiring a photographer to take pictures; yet again, they will charge for photos. Rules shouldn't make people unbreathable.

SPEAK TO US

How can we as individuals and the government contribute to lessen air pollution in the city?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Power demand breaches 16,000 MW per day

State energy dept forced to spend Rs 50 crore daily on external sources

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

With a 'drought' situation occurring in the middle of the rainy season, Karnataka finds itself in a peculiar predicament. Normally, power shortages are experienced during the summer months, but this year, the crisis has emerged during the rainy season, raising concerns about the potential consequences if this trend persists into the upcoming summer.

According to sources, the energy department is compelled to procure power from outside the state, resulting in a whopping daily expenditure of Rs 40 to Rs 50 crore solely for purchasing electricity.

Typically, during the rainy season, the state's power demand fluctuates between 9,000 to 11,000 MW per day. However, surprisingly, this year, the power demand has surged to a record-breaking 16,000 MW per day, marking an unprecedented increase of 4,000 to 5,000 MW per day. To break down the power generation sources, approximately 2,000 MW is produced by thermal stations, 1,800 MW is generated by hydel stations, 4,500 to 5,000 MW comes from solar sources, 250 to 500 MW from wind energy, and the state needs to procure 4,500 to 7,000 MW from the central grid.

An official commented that since the implementation of the Gruha Jyothi scheme, which provides up to 200 units of power per month for registered customers, power demand has escalated. Now, with insufficient rainfall, the demand for power in agricultural fields has also surged. He further explained, "Even when we attempt to purchase power, it's often unavailable, and when we do manage to buy it, the costs are exorbitant. This puts us in the situation of procuring power at a higher cost while being obliged to supply it at a lower cost to consumers, as per the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) directives. Despite our efforts to purchase excess power to bridge the deficit, there are times when we can't secure it, forcing us into unscheduled load shedding."

During rainy season the state's power demand fluctuates between 9000–11000 MW per day

> **Despite our efforts to purchase excess power to bridge the deficit, there are times when we can't secure it, forcing us into unscheduled load shedding** – Official

Highlighting the importance of solar energy, the official said that it contributes 4,500 to 5,000 MW to the power supply, underscoring the significance of renewable energy sources over coal-based power generation. Examining the power demand since the first week of August, it has surged to 16,000 MW, but the state can only generate 14,000 MW. Challenges have arisen due to difficulties in coal procurement during the rainy season and maintenance-related shutdowns in some thermal units. Additionally, the low water levels in hydel stations have adversely affected hydroelectric power generation, leading the energy department to procure an additional 2,000 MW of power.

Another official noted, "While we managed the situation in the first week of August, challenges intensified in the second week. As we were compelled to purchase 1,000 to 1,500 MW, we incurred costs ranging from Rs 40 to Rs 50 crore to procure power from external sources."

Among the hydel stations, Linganamakki, one of the largest reservoirs, currently has only 46% of its storage capacity, with 69.48 TMC of water compared to 136.58 TMC during the same period last year. Similarly, Supa has just 54% of its water storage capacity, with 44.82 TMC of water compared to 93.99 TMC last year. Varahi has 31% of its water stored, with only 9.6 TMC compared to 21.29 TMC last year during the same period. Overall, all major hydel stations combined have only 48% of their water storage capacity during this year's peak rainy season.

Dasara: The grand elephant march begins

Karnataka Minister for Forest Eshwar Khandre on Friday inaugurated 'Gaja Payana' which marks the commencement of the majestic march of elephants from jungle camps to premises of the Mysuru palace to participate in the historical Dasara festival.

The event is regarded as the festival of the land and the state government celebrates it with all grandeur.

People from across the country and abroad visit the city during the festivities. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has announced that famous Kannada music composer and activist Hamsalekha will inaugurate Dasara this time.

The event was organised at the base camp at Veeranahosalli in Nagarahole National Park in Hunsur taluk. First batch of nine elephants participated in the inaugural function.

Minister Khandre inaugurated the Gaja Pay, by paying flower tribute with traditional worship to the group of elephants

The elephants are expected to reach Mysuru on Saturday. They will be accorded traditional welcome at the Mysuru Palace on September 4. The group of elephants started the journey including Abhimanyu, who will carry the golden howdah in the famous procession. Dhananjaya, Gopi, Kanjan, Vijaya, Arjuna, Bhima, Varalaxmi and Mahendra are the other elephants.

Minister Eshwar Khandre inaugurated the Gaja Pay, an event by paying flower tribute and offering traditional worship to the group of elephants. **–BMB**

Private transport strike in Bengaluru on Sept 11

Private transport operators demand 'one airport one fare' scheme, threaten state-wide protest if demands not met

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Nearly nine lakh private commercial vehicles including autos, airport taxis, maxi cabs, corporate vehicles, and buses will remain off the road In Bengaluru on September 11 as the federation of 32 private transport associations has decided to go on strike on a city-wide bandh. This is after the government has snubbed off a charter of demands submitted by the federation a while ago.

32 private transport associations decided to go on strike city-wide

"We had submitted a set of 30 demands to the Karnataka Transport Minister and we were assured that 28 demands will be fulfilled by August 30. However, the government has yet again failed to pay heed to our requirements. This is the reason we are calling for a city-wide bandh on September 11 (Monday)," said Natraj Sharma, president of the Federation of Karnataka State Private Transport Association Natraj Sharma in a press conference held in the city on Friday.

The federation underlines that while the initial plan for the protest was for July 27, it was postponed after getting assurances from the government that the demands put forth would be met. However, there has been no resolution and all assurances remain on paper. It also highlighted that there are more than five lakh autos, three lakh taxis, and over 55,000 private buses under the federation in Karnataka and this industry provides direct employment to nearly 20 lakh people and indirect employment to over 50 lakh citizens.

According to the federation members, the 'one airport one fare scheme' and extension of benefits of the Shakti scheme to private buses are some of the demands included in the charter.

"We have suffered irreparable losses due to the Shakti scheme and we demand that the benefits be extended to private buses too. We are affected badly in rural areas. For instance, even autorickshaws in rural districts of Kolar and north Karnataka have suffered losses. Their income has gone down by more than 45%. We are also rooting for uniform fare determination for the airport through one airport one fare scheme," representatives of the federation said.

On August 11, the federation will begin with a rally from Sangolli Rayanna Circle at 10:30 am and will then proceed to Freedom Park, where it will stage the protest till 7 pm.

"We indulged in multiple discussions with the government, but they were of no use. If the government has any intention to solve our problems and not cause any inconvenience to the public, a decision should be taken before September 11. If not, our future course of action will include a state-wide protest," said Sharma.

A gig headache

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While real income indicates earnings that an entity or an individual makes after considering inflation rates, nominal income represents earnings that are not adjusted to subsequent changes with inflation.

The Congress, in its election manifesto, had promised to set up a 'gig workers welfare board' with Rs 3,000 crore seed money allotment. However, while presenting the first budget, Chief Minister Siddaramiah had only announced an insurance cover of Rs 4 lakh for gig workers.

Legal framework needed

Vinay Sarathi, United Food Delivery Partners' Union president, said that soon after the budget announcement, a meeting was called by the labour department with all the stakeholders involved. However, there has been no result from the meeting yet, he informed. Sarathi said that while a welfare board must be constituted through which welfare schemes can be rolled out, the need of the hour is a legal framework governing the gig worker economy. "The government must have a grip on these companies. They are currently functioning on their own whims and fancies without any accountability," he added.

Avani Chokshi, a lawyer and member of All India Central Council of Trade Unions (AICCTU), said that the state must recognise that gig workers are workers who are entitled to social security and other protections that a worker in an industry or commercial establishment is statutorily entitled to.

Alok Prasanna, Co-founder and Team Lead from Vidhi Centre of Legal Policy had previously told Bangalore Mirror that the government must ensure that the gig workers' welfare board, when constituted, has adequate representation from gig workers – where they are significantly involved in the process of formulation of schemes as well as allocation of funds.

Most are overqualified

Another interesting find from the study is gig workers being more academically qualified than their employer requires them to be. It has also found that the phenomenon of those with educational qualifications opting to do gig work is higher in smaller cities. The study has found that more than a third of the food delivery workers were graduates while the number rose to 39.7% in tier-2 cities. Over 12.5% of them had a technical and vocational degree or diploma.

It has also found that gig workers earned less (in nominal terms) when compared to their peer group covered in the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2021-22.

While gig workers earned Rs 20,744 per month, those from their peer group earned Rs 22,494 per month. The peer group consists of those between the ages 18-35 years and have at least a higher secondary education. While gig workers work 23% more than their peers, they earn 8% less.

According to estimates made by the industry, there are over 7,00,000 to 1 million food delivery workers employed by platforms like Swiggy and Zomato in the nation. However, the number is subject to variation based on seasonality of demand.

Take the noise bull by its horns

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

total number of vehicles in Karnataka. This is the tip of the iceberg and appears like a formality being done by the RTOs. Rather than registering cases against a handful of vehicles, it would be better to state that no cases were registered against loud, shrill, and multitone horns and unnecessary and repeated honking. Taking the issue so lightly will have zero impact," said an anti-noise pollution activist in the city.

No penalties

Experts also raise the issue of low penalties being imposed by Bengaluru Traffic Police against vehicular noise pollution offenders. The Indian Motor Vehicles Act, of 1988 bars alteration in motor vehicles with those originally specified by the manufacturer and prescribes that the violators be punished. It also says that needless honking should be punishable with a fine of Rs 1,000 and for a second or subsequent offense with a fine of Rs 2,000. Currently. However, BTP put a fine of Rs 500 on the defaulters, irrespective of several offenses.

"BTP should consider imposing fines as mentioned in the Act. A higher amount will ensure more compliance. Moreover, there has been no effort by BTP to put a check on this offence in the recent past. The department should come up with a campaign and spread awareness about the ill effects of loud or shrill horns and unnecessary honking. There should be special drives taken up against vehicles that install shrill horns such as tipper trucks, water tankers, and commercial vehicles like school buses, private buses, and smaller trucks. Nowadays, even two wheelers are also using multitone horns," said Raja Kannan, a resident of Begur Kopa Road in Hulimavu and an anti-noise pollution crusader.

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In the court of the Civil Judge Senior Division III, Koderma. Original Suit No. - 33 / 2020
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Versus
Smt. Bina Shourie and others
...Defendants
Notice to:
3. Virendra Nath Kalia, aged about- 76 Years, son of Late Amar Nath Kalia, by faith Hindu, by category General by profession retired person, resident of 76, Flat No.126, Trinity me Dows, Agra, Sarjapur Road, Banglore- 560034
...Defendants
Whereas aforesaid plaintiffs have instituted the suit in which all of you are defendants, The summons of the case were served upon to you by process server as well as by registered post but you people have not appeared in the case till date, deliberately and intentionally. By publishing notices in daily News paper, all of you are hereby required to appear in the court on the next date fixed i.e. 26/09/2023 at 10:30 a.m., either personally or through Advocate and to file written statement and to take necessary steps therein, failing which the suit shall be heard and decided ex-parte in your absence, which please note. Treat it most argent.
Given under my hand and seal on this the 8th day of August 2023.
Civil Judge, Senior Division No- III, Koderma, Jharkhand

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I Zaheerunnisa W/o Kaleem Ur Rahman R/o No 47/2 2nd floor Hains Road Frazer town B'lore 560005 have changed my name to Zaheerunnisa Bareed

I Divya Gnaneshwar W/o Gnaneshwar Janardhan R/o RR Nagar, Bangalore have changed my name from Divya Ravi Sharma to Divya Gnaneshwar for all future purposes

I, Dinesh Kumar S/o. Shankarlal, D.O.B: 15.08.1973, R/o at No 31 8th main road Gokula 1st Stage 2nd phase Yeshwanthpur Blore-560022 have changed my name to DINESHA KUMAR JAIN, vide affidavit dated: 29.08.2023 before notary CHANDRAKALA, Bengaluru.

I, Supriya Hegde D/o Kolkebail Chandrashekar Shetty R/o No 265, Block No 26, Lic Flats, 29th Main, 10th 'b' Cross, Jp Nagar 1st Phase, Bengaluru have changed my name to Supriya Hegde B for all purposes.

I, Manjula S w/o Late Karan Kumar R/a No 27/1, Babureddy Layout, Manorayanapalya, RT Nagar Post Bangalore 560032. I am Changing my minor son name from Aaron K to Arun K. Vide affidavit dtd 30-08-23. swo rn before notary Leela B'lore.

I Manohar Revanasiddppa S/O, Revanasiddappa Shankarappa R/o No 10,4th Cross Road, Nagamuneshwara Layout, Hosa Road, Ck Nagar, Bangalore 560100 have changed my name to Manohar Revanasiddappa.

I, Padmaja, w/o Pillappa, born on 1st July1969, Residing at 60 Red cedar cres, Brampton, Ontario, Canada. Have changed my name to Padmaja Raj Pillappa, vide affidavit dated 23 of Aug 2023, at Brampton, Canada

I, HARISH KUMAR PARIHAR, Residing at No. 11/1-1, 4th Floor, 18th 'A' Cross, S.R. Nagar, Bengaluru-560027, have changed my name to HARISH PARIHAR, vide affidavit dated: 01.09.2023 before Notary R. Basavaraja, Bluru.

I Leishipem Hungyo W/O, Sidharth Beckaya R/o C-209 Pariwar Pragathi Apartments, Balaji Gardens Layout, Gottigere, Bengaluru - 560083 have changed my name to Myra Leishipem Beckaya.

I Sevucan Sivalingam S/O, Sevucan Chettiar R/o 101, Bharat Residency, 5th Main, 9th Block, Nagarbhavi Bangalore 560072 have changed my name to Sivalingam for all purposes

I, Godugu Mabu Basha s/o Godugu Badulla residing at 1-32, Pulliveedu, porumamilla, cuddapah, Andhra Pradesh, 516193, have changed my name to Godugu Mahaboobbasha for all future purposes.

I Farhan Shaikh R/o Flat no 23185 tower 23 Prestig Lakeside Habitat Varthur Road Gunjur Bangalore-560087 have changed my name to Farhan Arif Shaikh

I, Subash Chandra Sahu S/o Adia Sahu residing at No.60, Anitha Nivas, 13th Cross, Kalappa Layout, Basvanagar, Bangalore-560037 have changed my daughter name from SAMRUDHI SAHU to SRISHTI SAMRIDDHI SAHU, affidavit dated 24.08.2023 before notary J Anand Kumar, Bangalore

I Padmavath D/O, Govindaraj Sowdappan R/o 884/2 Begur Hobli , 1st Crs 1st Main Near Hdfc Bank Ck Nagar , Bengaluru-560100, have changed my name to Padmavathi.

I Rohit Rajan Nair S/o Pazhur Rajan Nair , R/o B03 Chestnut, TATA Sherwood Apts, Basavanagar, Bangalore 560037 have changed my name to Rohit Nair

GET NOTICED

In ED scanner –
Jet Airways founder Naresh Goyal questioned by Enforcement Directorate in a money laundering case on Friday

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INDIA decides: United we stand... 'as far as possible'

Oppn bloc resolves to fight LS polls together; seat-sharing in spirit of 'give and take'

#Mumbai

The INDIA bloc Friday resolved to fight the 2024 Lok Sabha polls together "as far as possible" and vowed to conclude their seat-sharing arrangements at the earliest in a spirit of "give-and-take", while exuding confidence that they would easily defeat the BJP.

Amid speculation of early polls and the formation of a panel to explore the possibility of 'one nation, one election', Opposition bloc leaders took crucial decisions, including setting up of a 14-member coordination committee that will act as the top decision-making body of the alliance and will start work on seat sharing.

Sources said the body has been asked to work out a seat sharing formula by the end of this month, a suggestion made during informal talks between leaders.

In a resolution passed at the meeting here, the INDIA bloc said, "We, the INDIA parties, hereby resolve to contest the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections together as far as possible.

A press conference after the Opposition's INDIA bloc leaders meeting

Seat-sharing arrangements in different states will be initiated immediately and concluded at the earliest in a collaborative spirit of give-and-take."

It also resolved to "organize public rallies at the earliest in different parts of the country on issues of public concern and importance"

The resolution said the INDIA parties will coordinate their communications and media strategies and campaigns with the theme 'Judega Bharat, Jeetega India' in different languages.

Addressing the media after the India bloc's third meeting, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said, "I am confident the INDIA bloc will defeat the BJP. We may have differences, but we all work with great flexibility."

He said the alliance will propose a clear development path that involves poor people in the progress of country. The 14-member coordination committee that will act as the highest decision-making body of the alliance has K C Venugopal of the Congress, T R Baalu of the DMK, Sharad Pawar of the NCP and Sanjay Raut of the Shiv Sena its members.

Hemant Soren of the JMM, Raghav Chadha of the AAP, D Raja of CPI, Javed Ali Khan of SP, Tejashwi Yadav of RJD, Lalan Singh of JDU, Abhishek Banerjee of TMC, Omar Abdullah of NC and Mehbooba Mufti of PDP are also in the panel. **– PTI**

CCI grants approval for merger of Vistara and Air India

#New Delhi

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) granted approval on Friday for the merger between Tata Group's airlines - Vistara and Air India. This significant development opens the door for Air India to potentially become India's largest international carrier and the second-largest domestic carrier, trailing only IndiGo.

This decision follows several months of scrutiny, during which the CCI had issued a show cause notice to Air India back in June, seeking clarification on why the proposed merger with Vistara should not be subject to investigation due to concerns regarding competition within the aviation sector.

"C-2023/04/1022 CCI approves the merger of Tata SIA Airlines into Air India, and acquisition of certain shareholding by Singapore Airlines in Air India subject to compliance of voluntary commitments offered by the parties," the regulator said in a tweet on X (formerly known as Twitter) on Friday evening. **– IANS**

G20: Holiday for high court, trial courts

#New Delhi

The Delhi High Court Friday declared September 8 a holiday for itself and all district courts here on account of the G20 Summit.
The G20 Summit will be held in Delhi on September 9 and 10.

A notification issued by the Delhi high court said, "It is notified for information to all concerned that Friday, September 8, 2023, is declared as a holiday for this court and the courts subordinate to it, on account of the preparations for G-20 Summit, to be held on September 9–10, 2023."

September 9 and 10, being Saturday and Sunday, are the days when the high court is usually closed. Trial courts also remain closed on second Saturdays and all Sundays.

NSG personnel during a security drill ahead of the G20 Summit, in New Delhi on Friday

The notification, issued through high court registrar general Ravinder Dudeja, said that to compensate for the off, the high court will sit on December 16 (Saturday), and trial courts on December 9 (a second Saturday).

The cases listed, including for orders and judgments, before the high court and trial courts on September 8, will be taken up on September 11, in addition to the cases already listed on that day, it said.

Use of surveillance drones to patrol the Yamuna floodplains and strengthening security at eight border points and river bridges in the trans-Yamuna area are among the several safety measures planned by the Delhi Police in the run-up to the G20 Summit here next week.

The police have already started patrolling through drones in some parts of the national capita. **– PTI**

Trying it out
Trial run of motor trolly under way on India–Bangladesh railway line, in Agartala, on Friday

Manipur violence: SC directs Centre, state to ensure distribution of basic supplies

Schoolchildren at a peace rally against ethnic clashes in Manipur, in Kolkata, on Friday

#New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Friday directed the Centre and Manipur government to ensure the distribution of basic supplies such as food, medicines, and other essentials to those affected by the Manipur violence so that no citizens are left without basic human facilities. The bench of Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud and Justice JB Pardiwala on the removal of the blockade on National Highways and other areas preventing rations said that the manner in which the blockade is dealt with is under law enforcement. However, considering the humanitarian aspect of the matter, the government should explore all options including air-dropping of necessary items, the top court said. It asked the Centre and Manipur government to inform it about the steps taken by them on the next date of hearing. The matter was then posted for hearing on September 6.

The apex court passed the directions after senior advocate Meenakshi Arora appeared for the judges' committee constituted by it to deal with the humanitarian aspects of the issue.

Arora said there are two issues– first, blockades in the Moreh region of Manipur which had prevented people from getting basic rations and the second is an outbreak of chickenpox and measles in some relief camps. The bench also took into note the submission of Solicitor General Tushar Mehta that nodal officers have been appointed by Manipur and the Central government. It said that the committee set up by the apex court shall be informed about the nodal officers so that the committee could reach out to the government directly.

The apex court also said that the government would have to take a call on the bodies lying unclaimed in the morgues as the same could spread diseases. "Solicitor General, I think the government will have to take a call on the bodies in the morgues. They will just cause the spread of disease. Ultimately, the bodies have to be dealt with in a dignified manner," CJI said. The top court is seized of the cases relating to the violence in Manipur between Meitei and Kuki communities.

The violence in Manipur between the Meiteis and the tribal Kuki, who are, erupted after a rally by the All Tribal Students Union of Manipur (ATSUM) on May 3. Violence has gripped the entire state for over three months now and the Central government had to deploy paramilitary forces to bring the situation under control. **– PTI**

Man vs machine

To protect their copyrights and careers, 3 visual artists are suing AI image-generators for using their work

Artist Kelly McKernan paints in their studio in Nashville, Tenn, on Tuesday

Kelly McKernan's acrylic and watercolor paintings are bold and vibrant, often featuring feminine figures rendered in bright greens, blues, pinks and purples. The style, in the artist's words, is "surreal, ethereal … dealing with discomfort in the human journey."

The word "human" has a special resonance for McKernan these days. Although it's always been a challenge to eke out a living as a visual artist — and the pandemic made it worse — McKernan now sees an existential threat from a medium that's decidedly not human: artificial intelligence.

It's been about a year since McKernan, who uses the pronoun they, began noticing online images eerily similar to their own distinctive style that were apparently generated by entering their name into an AI engine.

The Nashville-based McKernan, 37, who creates both fine art and digital illustrations, soon learned that companies were feeding artwork into AI systems used to "train" image-generators — something that once sounded like a weird sci-fi movie but now threatens the livelihood of artists worldwide.

"People were tagging me on Twitter, and I would respond, 'Hey, this makes me uncomfortable. I didn't give my consent for my name or work to be used this way,'" the artist said in a recent interview, their bright blue-green hair mirroring their artwork. "I even reached out to some of these companies to say 'Hey, little artist here, I know you're not thinking of me at all, but it would be really cool if you didn't use my work like this.' And, crickets, absolutely nothing."

McKernan is now one of three artists who are seeking to protect their copyrights and careers by suing makers of AI tools that can generate new imagery on command.

The case awaits a decision from a San Francisco federal judge, who has voiced some doubt about whether AI companies are infringing on copyrights when they analyze billions of images and spit out something different.

"We're David against Goliath here," McKernan says. "At the end of the day, someone's profiting from my work. I had rent due yesterday, and I'm $200 short. That's how desperate things are right now. And it just doesn't feel right."

The lawsuit may serve as an early bellwether of how hard it will be for all kinds of creators — Hollywood actors, novelists, musicians and computer programmers — to stop AI developers from profiting off what humans have made.

The case was filed in January by McKernan and fellow artists Karla Ortiz and Sarah Andersen, on behalf of others like them, against Stability AI, the London-based maker of text-to-image generator Stable Diffusion. The complaint also named another popular image-generator, Midjourney, and the online gallery DeviantArt.

The suit alleges that the AI image-generators violate the rights of millions of artists by ingesting huge troves of digital images and then producing derivative works that compete against the originals. The artists say they are not inherently opposed to AI, but they don't want to be exploited by it. They are seeking class-action damages and a court order to stop companies from exploiting artistic works without consent.

Stability AI declined to comment. In a court filing, the company said it creates "entirely new and unique images" using simple word prompts, and that its images don't or rarely resemble the images in the training data.

Midjourney and DeviantArt didn't return emailed requests for comment.

Much of the sudden proliferation of image-generators can be traced to a single, enormous research database, known as the Large-scale Artificial Intelligence Open Network, or LAION, run by a schoolteacher in Hamburg, Germany.

The teacher, Christoph Schuhmann, said he has no regrets about the nonprofit project, which is not a defendant in the lawsuit and has largely escaped copyright challenges by creating an index of links to publicly accessible images without storing them. But the educator said he understands why artists are concerned. "In a few years, everyone can generate anything — video, images, text. Anything that you can describe, you can generate it in such a way that no human can tell the difference between AI-generated content and professional human-generated content," Schuhmann said in an interview.

The idea that such a development is inevitable — that it is, essentially, the future — was at the heart of a U.S. Senate hearing in July in which Ben Brooks, head of public policy for Stability AI, acknowledged that artists are not paid for their images. "There is no arrangement in place," Brooks said, at which point Hawaii Democratic Sen. Mazie Hirono asked Ortiz whether she had ever been compensated by AI makers. "I have never been asked. I have never been credited. I have never been compensated, and that's for the use of almost the entirety of my work, both personal and commercial, senator," she replied.

You could hear the fury in the voice of Ortiz, also 37, of San Francisco, a concept artist and illustrator in the entertainment industry. Her work has been used in movies including "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3," "Loki," "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story," "Jurassic World" and "Doctor Strange." In the latter, she was responsible for the design of Doctor Strange's costume.

"We're kind of the blue-collar workers within the art world," Ortiz said in an interview. "We provide visuals for movies or games. We're the first people to take a stab at, what does a visual look like? And that provides a blueprint for the rest of the production." But it's easy to see how AI-generated images can compete, Ortiz says.

"It's overnight an almost billion-dollar industry. They just took our work, and suddenly we're seeing our names being used thousands of times, even hundreds of thousands of times."

For now, the rtists are throwing themselves into the legal fight — a fight that centers on preserving what makes people human, says McKernan. **— AP**

BITS & BYTES

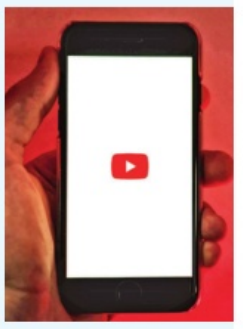
Privacy counts

Elon Musk on Friday said that X Corp (formerly Twitter) will not use users' data to train its machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) models.

The tech billionaire reacted after X updated its privacy policy, seeking permission from users to start collecting their biometric data and employment history. When an X user posted that the updated privacy policy has added a mention of using X data to train AI models, Musk responded this is not correct. The X owner said that the social media company will use "just public data, not direct messages (DMs) or anything private". The social media network has updated its privacy policy to include carve-outs for "biometric information" and "employment history". **–IANS**

Play some music

YouTube Music has redesigned its "Now Playing" screen with a new comments section that allows users to read and write comments directly from the app.



The redesign is being rolled out to iOS and Android devices globally, reports 9to5Google. The new comments button shows existing comments from the official music video on YouTube.

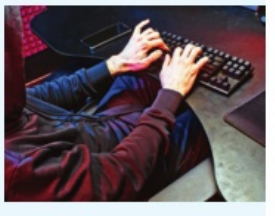
Users can also type their own content.

The comment button is located under the cover art. When a user selects the button, a panel slides up on the screen. Next to the comments are icons for like/dislike, save, share, download and radio, which were previously hidden and only accessible when users tapped on the cover. **–IANS**

Tech support scam

A 40-year-old Indian-American has been arrested in connection with a technical support scam that targeted more than 7,000 victims in the US.

Manoj Yadav of Clifton in New Jersey, defrauded victims -- consisting mainly of small business owners and the elderly -- of more than $13 million, US Attorney Philip R Sellinger announced on Thursday.



He was charged by complaint with one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and appeared before US Magistrate Judge Jose R. Almonte in Newark federal court on Thursday. "The defendant and his conspirators are alleged to have misled their numerous victims into thinking that they were a legitimate technology support company affiliated with a major software company," Sellinger said. **–IANS**

HEALTH TIP: Meditation can bring you a sense of calm and relaxation and build your emotional wellbeing and overall health

Ensure you stay adequately hydrated throughout the day and make water your primary beverage of choice

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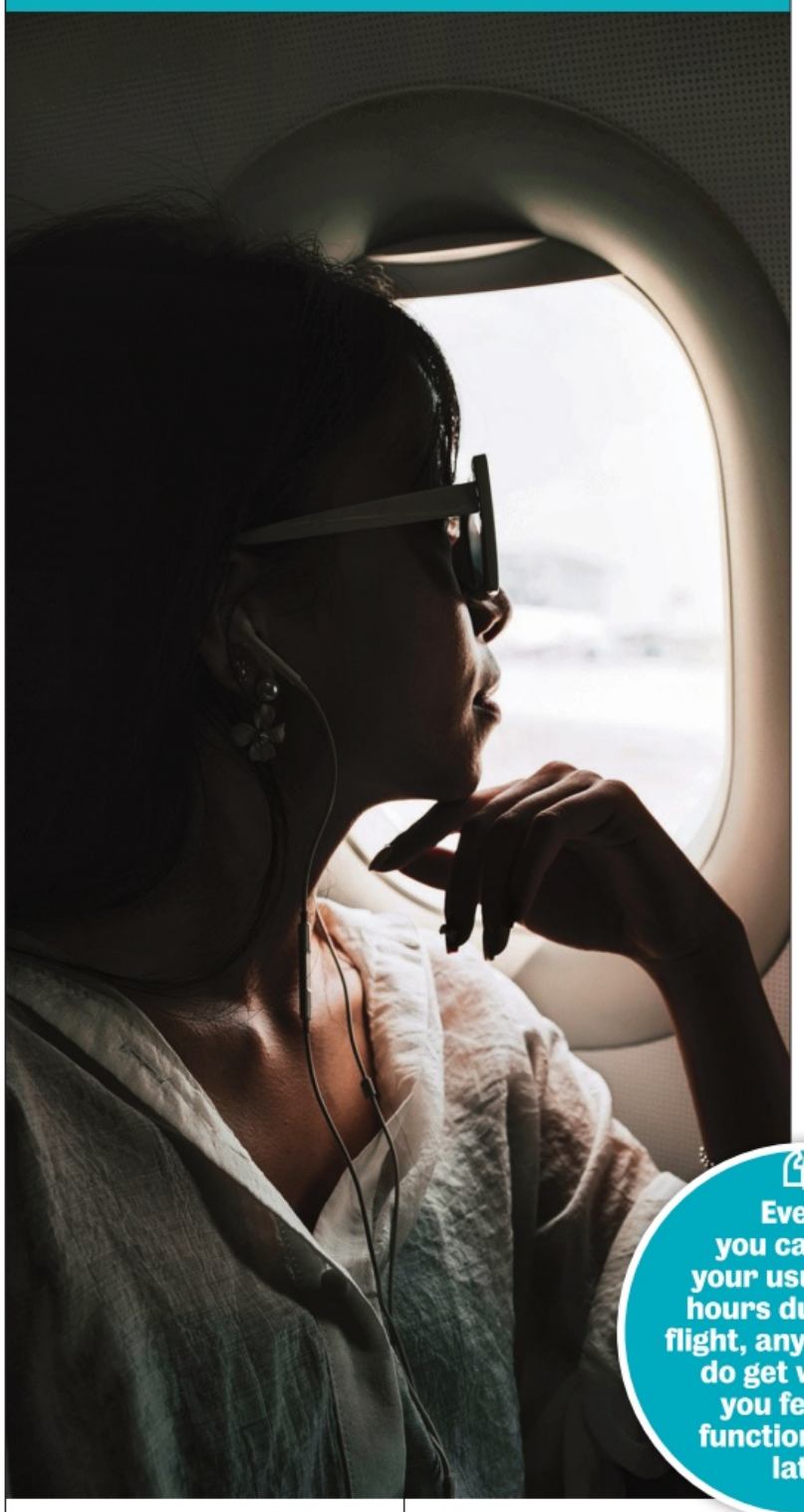
A NAP IN THE CLOUDS

How can you get better sleep on long-haul flights?



For most of us, the prospect of a long-haul flight is exciting, mixed with a few nerves. We're off somewhere different – perhaps a holiday, maybe to catch up with friends or family. Even work can be more interesting when you're in a new location.

Of course, you want to arrive fully rested and ready to go. But by its very definition, a long-haul flight involves travelling for a long period of time, often more than 12 hours. If you're on a flight from New York to Singapore, it can be close to 19 hours.

All that time you're confined in a seat that's supposed to recline but feels like it hardly moves, while the seat in front seems to recline ten times lower than yours.

So, what can you do to get a decent rest?

Accept the situation

The first tip for sleep in this setting is to relax your expectations a little.

Humans are just not well designed to sleep in an almost upright position.

Unless you're lucky to fly in a class with a lie-flat seat, you're very unlikely to step off a long-haul flight having had a solid eight hours of sleep.

Research by colleagues and myself has shown pilots – who get a bunk to sleep in during their in-flight rest breaks – have light and fragmented sleep.

Despite not having great quality sleep, you can be assured our research also shows pilots remain very good at their job throughout a long-haul flight.

This, plus findings from many other lab-based studies, tells us that even a short amount of light sleep has benefits.

So, even if you can't get your usual eight hours during the flight, any sleep you do get will help you feel and function better at your destination.

Also, we're not great at judging how much sleep we've had, particularly if our sleep is light and broken. So you're likely to have slept more than you think.

Time your sleep and drinks The timing of your flight, and consumption of alcohol and caffeine will directly impact your ability to sleep on an aircraft.

Assuming you're adjusted to the time zone the flight departs from, daytime flights will make sleep on board much harder, whereas nighttime flights make sleep easier.

All humans have a circadian (24-hour) time-keeping system, which programs us for sleep at night and wakefulness during the day.

Sleeping (or waking) against this biological time-keeping system poses significant challenges.

We do have a natural decrease of alertness in the middle of the afternoon, which makes this a good time to try for sleep on a daytime flight.

On nighttime flights it will be easier to sleep once the dinner service is finished, otherwise you will be battling noise, light and the movement of people around you.

As a stimulant, caffeine helps us stay alert.

Even if you're a regular coffee drinker and can fall asleep after drinking caffeine, your sleep will be lighter and you'll be more easily woken.

On the other hand, alcohol makes us feel sleepy, but it interferes with our brains' ability to have REM sleep (also known as dreaming sleep). Although you may fall asleep more easily after consuming alcohol, your sleep will be more disturbed once your body metabolises the alcohol and attempts to catch up on the REM sleep it's missed out on.

What about taking melatonin or other drugs?

Some people find taking a sleeping tablet or melatonin can help on a plane. This is a very personal choice.

Before taking sleeping medication or melatonin you should see your doctor, and only take what's prescribed for you. Many sleeping medications do not allow perfectly normal sleep to occur and can make you feel groggy and drowsy after waking.

Importantly, melatonin is a hormone our brains use to tell us it's nighttime. Melatonin can assist with sleep, but depending on when and how much you take, it can also shift your circadian clock. This could shift you further away from being aligned with the destination time zone.

Taking melatonin in your biological afternoon and evening will shift your circadian time-keeping system east (or earlier) and taking it toward the end of your biological night and in your biological morning will shift the circadian time-keeping system west (or later). It gets complicated very quickly!

Prepare your clothes and accessories

Be prepared so you can create the best possible sleep situation within the constraints of an aircraft seat.

Wear comfy layers, so you can take things off if you get too hot or put things on when you cool down, and hang on to that blanket instead of losing it under your seat.

Light and noise disturb sleep, so pack eye shades and earplugs (or a noise cancelling headset) to block these out.

Practice with eye shades and earplugs at home, as it can take a few sleeps to get used to them.

A normal and necessary part of the falling asleep process is relaxation, including our neck muscles.

When sitting up, this means our heavy heads will no longer be well supported, resulting in that horrible head-dropping experience most of us have had.

Try supporting your head with a neck pillow or, if you have a window seat, against the aircraft wall. (Unless you know the person in the next seat well, they are probably not a good option to prop you up.)

> **Even if you can't get your usual eight hours during the flight, any sleep you do get will help you feel and function better later**

Don't try to force it

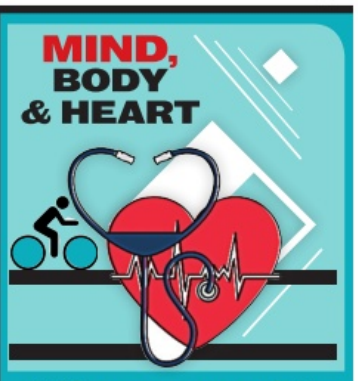
Finally, if you wake up and are struggling to go back to sleep, don't fight it.

Take advantage of the in-flight entertainment. This is one of the few times sleep scientists will tell you it's okay to turn on the technology – watch a movie, binge-watch a TV series, or if you prefer, listen to music or read a good book.

When you feel sleepy, you can try going back to sleep, but don't get stressed or worried about getting enough sleep.

Our brains are very good at sleeping – trust that your body will catch you up when it can.

(By Leigh Signal, Massey University, The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Covid brain fog

Clot in the act
Researchers have found that blood clots after a Covid infection may be due to ongoing cognitive problems, commonly referred to as 'brain fog'.

What is brain fog
Brain fog is common and debilitating, and can affect the ability to work, yet their biological underpinnings remain unknown. It can affect people's thinking, concentration or memory for at least six months.

2 proteins
Researchers from the University of Oxford, UK said that high levels of two proteins at the time of Covid-19 have been found in patients who later experienced cognitive problems, including 'brain fog'.

The study gave a major clue as to one cause of their symptoms: blood clots, said researchers from the University of Oxford, UK.

The biomarkers
In a new paper published in Nature Medicine, they identified two separate profiles of biomarkers. The first was having a high level of a protein called fibrinogen, and the second was a raised level of a protein fragment called D-dimer. "Both fibrinogen and D-dimer are involved in blood clotting, and so the results support the hypothesis that blood clots are a cause of post-Covid cognitive problems. Fibrinogen may be directly acting on the brain and its blood vessels, whereas D-dimer often reflects blood clots in the lungs and the problems in the brain might be due to lack of oxygen," Dr Max Taquet from the varsity said.

"In line with this possibility, people who had high levels of D-dimer were not only at a higher risk of brain fog, but also at a higher risk of respiratory problems," Taquet said.

—IANS

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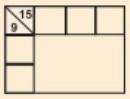
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

$\sqrt[3]{12.5\%} = x\%$

$x = ?$

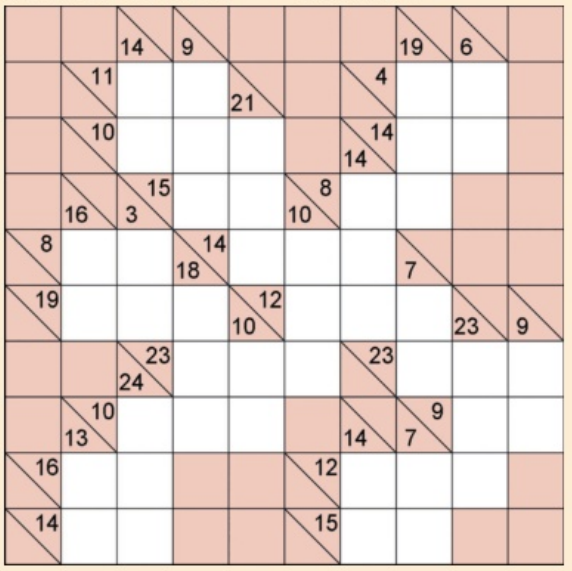
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

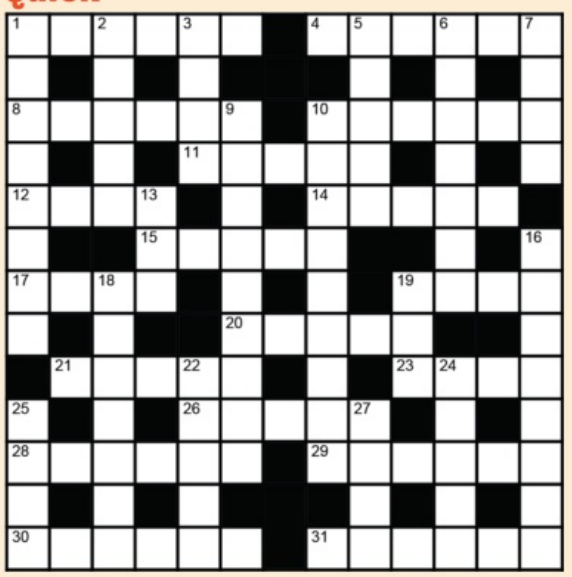


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Altitude (6)
4 Capital of Tasmania (6)
8 Edible root (6)
10 Sicilian volcano (2,4)
11 Hindu sun-god (5)
12 Mexican coin (4)
14 Fiery particle (5)
15 Snapshot (5)
17 Golf stroke (4)
19 Arabian gulf (4)
20 Grass colour (5)
21 Courtyard (5)
23 Dorothy's dog! (4)
26 Wall painting (5)
28 Mouths of rivers (6)
29 Set alight, ignite (6)
30 Neater (6)
31 Means of curdling milk (6)

DOWN

1 Sailor's dance (8)
2 ___ Valley Civilization : the ancient Aryan culture and civilization? (5)
3 Sibilance (4)
5 Readily available (2,3)
6 Made changes (7)
7 Mine car (4)
9 Extremely large (9)
10 Popular dessert in Karnataka and the rest of the country as well (6,3)
13 Choose (3)
16 Habitually inactive, lazy (8)
18 Lagged behind, pursued or chased (7)
19 Social insect (3)
22 Likeness (5)
24 Bygone (5)
25 Prepare for press (4)
27 Citrus fruit (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: R EQUALS T

KI VUU RDA WAVM CAMA GU-VWKQO DZUKJVWL; RZ LGZMR CZPUJ XA VL RAJKZPL VL RZ CZME.

Linemaro

You must be the square root of two because I feel irrational around you

Mindchow

Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail

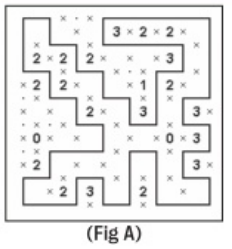
Joke of the day

This girl said she remembered me from the vegetarian club, but I had never met herbivore

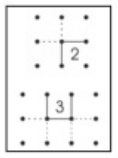
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

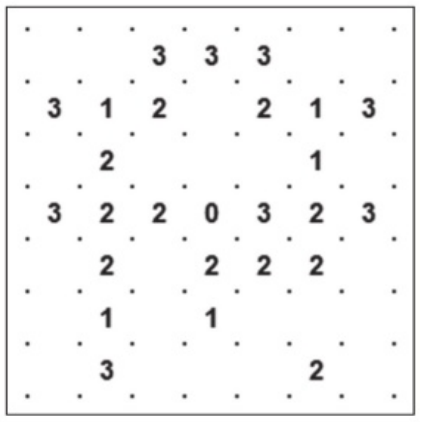


(Fig B) Not Allowed

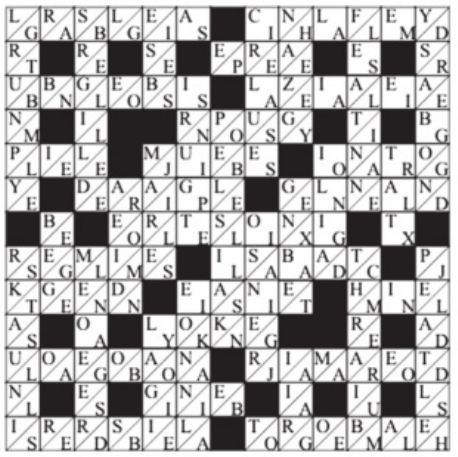
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5 P
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

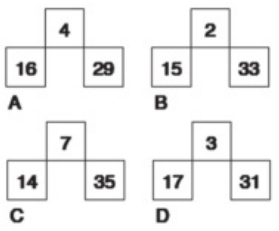
1 Prags; 6 Filer;
7 Laudo; 8 Me pul;
9 Shlep

DOWN

1 Ph rag; 2 Iller;
3 Of alu; 4 Lumps;
5 Speed

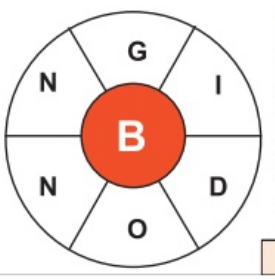
Mensapuzzle

Which is the missing section?



5	2	3	10
6	4	1	11
1	9	?	12
12	?	6	?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 06 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		4		9		8		
9								7
1			7		2			5
	2		8		9		7	
		3		6		5		
	6		4		5		1	
3			6		1			4
7								8
		5		8		7		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 13

4 4 6 7

Medium = 39

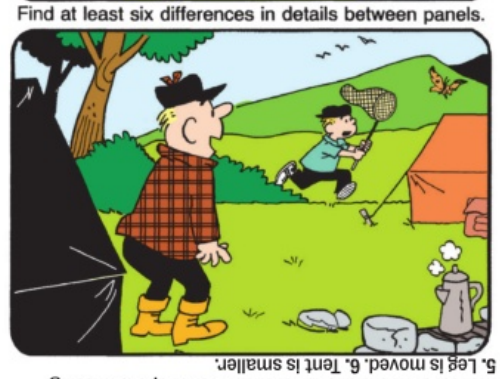
3 3 9 9

Hard = 23

2 8 9 2

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



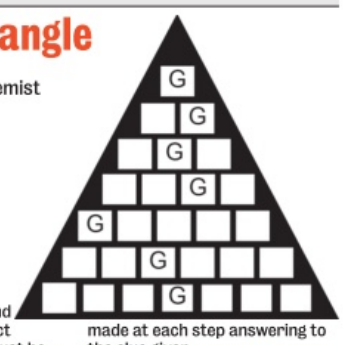
Differences: 1. Backpack strap is missing. 2. Butterfly is moved. 3. Rocks are different. 4. Tent rope is missing. 5. Leg is moved. 6. Tent is smaller.

Riddler

You are my brother but I am not your brother. Who am I?

Alpha triangle

1 Gravity, symbol
2 Silver for the chemist
3 Grow old
4 Fury
5 Machine parts
6 Bets
7 Strut



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

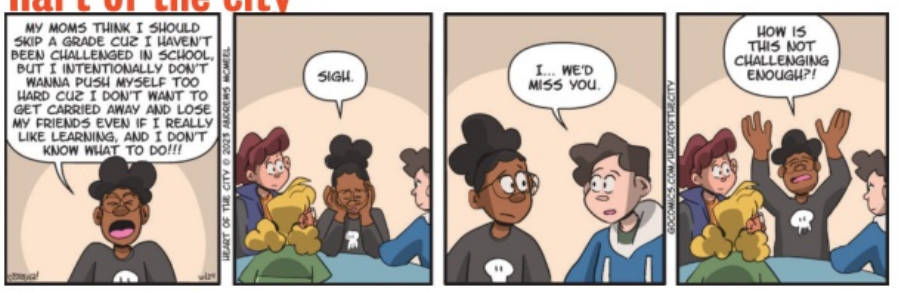
Redeye by Mel Casson

HOW DOES ONE TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BOY SNAKE AND A GIRL SNAKE ?
BY THE SOUND THEY MAKE
Yates/Casson
? ?
A GIRL SNAKE GOES "HERSSS" AND A BOY SNAKE GOES ...
DON'T TELL ME !
6-13

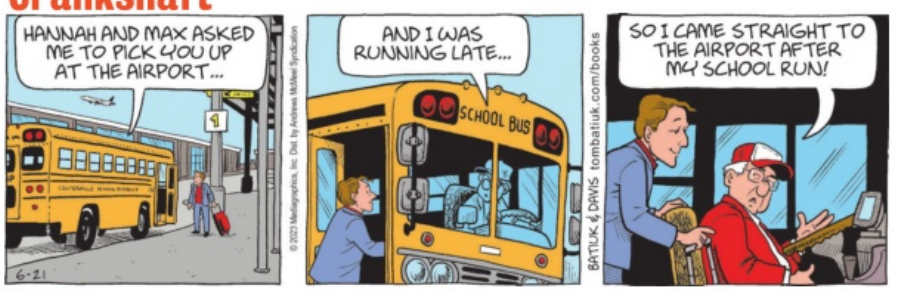
Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


MY MOMS THINK I SHOULD SKIP A GRADE CUZ I HAVEN'T BEEN CHALLENGED IN SCHOOL, BUT I INTENTIONALLY DON'T WANNA PUSH MYSELF TOO HARD CUZ I DON'T WANT TO GET CARRIED AWAY AND LOSE MY FRIENDS EVEN IF I REALLY LIKE LEARNING, AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!!!
SIGH.
I... WE'D MISS YOU.
HOW IS THIS NOT CHALLENGING ENOUGH?!

Crankshaft


HANNAH AND MAX ASKED ME TO PICK YOU UP AT THE AIRPORT...
AND I WAS RUNNING LATE...
SCHOOL BUS
SO I CAME STRAIGHT TO THE AIRPORT AFTER MY SCHOOL RUN!
BATLIK & DAVIS tombatliuk.com/books

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may be busy at work, but with the help of your strong network, you may be able to implement your plans successfully. Your wisdom may help you gain profits from past investments. You may enjoy your romantic moments with your spouse, which will increase harmony in your domestic life. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may make decisions very quickly, which may have benefits in your day-to-day life. You may also plan for higher studies to groom your career. Kids may also make you busy. Property-related disputes between siblings are likely to be resolved. You may also expect some work-related short trips.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today is not good. You may feel unhappy or dissatisfied with your current situation. You are advised to keep your patience and not take any decisions in a hurry. You are advised to take care of your parents.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. The last couple of days of disappointment may now be converted into happiness. You may enjoy your professional and personal life, and your network may help you complete your postponed projects. You are likely to start some new venture with the help of your siblings, and your network may support you in every step.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you are advised to control your straightforwardness; your loose talk may affect people around you. You may spend your hard-earned money on buying some worthless stuff. Your mind is likely to work very fast; it is advised to make any important decision with patience.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may be able to complete difficult tasks very easily. That may boost your confidence level. Your past investments may pay you good gains. You are advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics; it may waste your precious time.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may feel dull. You may have some health issues. You are advised to postpone making investments in the business. It is also advised not to start a new venture. You are likely to face losses in the business. Your gains are likely to convert into losses.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you are blessed by the moon, which may make you happy. Last day's crunch is now over. With the help of blessings, you may get reciprocation for your hard work. With the help of your subordinates, you may be able to initiate your postponed work. There are some gains in your business that may boost your finances.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may be more enthusiastic. Your performance at work may be good, it may boost your terms with seniors, and you are likely to get some new responsibilities in terms of promotions. In legal matters, you may hear good news. Your opponents and hidden enemies may be under control.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today your destiny may help you achieve success in an easy way. You are likely to visit some religious place to seek peace in your mind. You may spend your time earning some intellectual or occult knowledge. Students are likely to do better. Singles are likely to find a good match. Lovebirds may make some important decisions in terms of marriage.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may feel dull, you may have some health issues, and old debts may make you upset. You will be a victim of self-criticism. You will also feel guilty for silly mistakes. It is advised to avoid adventure tours and rash driving. Your stubbornness may create some issues in your personal life.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you will be happy. You may feel peace in your mind. Your focus on your goals would be very good. You are likely to have a romantic moment with your spouse. Your bond with your spouse may be stronger now. You will also be busy with other domestic issues.

KIDZONE

Sanja Y Velanganni, 13 Years, Bangalore

Arun S, 9 Years, Bangalore

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
¾/0.125 = 0.5
0.5x 100%
50%

BULL'S EYE
blind, bingo, boding, bond, BONDING, boning

STRIKE OUT

G	A	B	L	E	S	C	H	A	F
R	E	S	E	R	A	E	R		
U	N	L	E	S	S	A	Z	A	L
M	L	N	O	S	Y	I	G		
P	I	E	J	I	B	S	O	N	T
Y	D	R	A	P	E	G	L	E	A
B	E	R	E	L	O	N	G	X	
S	E	M	I	S	I	S	A	C	P
T	E	E	N	I	S	I	T	H	I
A	A	Y	O	K	E	E	D		
L	A	G	O	O	N	R	A	M	R
L	E	G	I	B	I	U	L		
D	E	L	T	A	S	K	I	N	O
E	I	M	U	R	A	L	L		
P	A	T	I	O	P	T	O	T	O
E	R	G	R	E	E	N	D		
P	U	T	N	R	A	D	E	N	
I	P	H	O	T	O	E	I		
P	E	S	O	M	S	P	A	R	K
N	U	S	U	R	Y	A	E	M	
R	A	D	I	S	H	M	T	E	T
O	N	I	N	L	R				
H	E	I	G	H	T	H	O	B	A
T	I	D	I	E	R	R	E	N	E

FAST FIVE

G	R	A	S	P
R	I	F	L	E
A	L	O	U	D
P	L	U	M	E
H	E	L	P	S

RIDDLER Your sister

QUOTE UNCODE
If all the year were playing holidays; To sport would be as tedious as to work.

QUICK

T	I	D	I	E	R	R	E	N	E
I	E	G	M	E	N				
D	E	L	T	A	S	K	I	N	O
E	I	M	U	R	A	L	L		
P	A	T	I	O	P	T	O	T	O
E	R	G	R	E	E	N	D		
P	U	T	N	R	A	D	E	N	
I	P	H	O	T	O	E	I		
P	E	S	O	M	S	P	A	R	K
N	U	S	U	R	Y	A	E	M	
R	A	D	I	S	H	M	T	E	T
O	N	I	N	L	R				
H	E	I	G	H	T	H	O	B	A
T	I	D	I	E	R	R	E	N	E

MENSA PUZZLE
B: in lines and columns, add the first three numbers to arrive at the fourth number.

SUDOKU

2	7	4	5	9	6	8	3	1
9	5	6	3	1	8	2	4	7
1	3	8	7	4	2	6	9	5
5	2	1	8	3	9	4	7	6
4	9	3	6	7	5	1	8	2
8	6	7	4	2	5	3	1	9
3	8	2	6	7	1	9	5	4
7	4	9	2	5	3	1	6	8
6	1	5	9	8	4	7	2	3

ALPHA TRIANGLE
G, Ag, Age, Rage, Gears, Wagers, Swagger.

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 + 6 – 4 + 4 = 13
Medium
3 x 9 + 3 + 9 = 39
Hard
2 + 2 x 8 – 9 = 23

LOOP

KAKURO

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Tale of romance

SAPTA SAGARADAACHE ELLO–SIDE A

3.5 RATING ★★★½☆

- **DIRECTOR** Hemanth M Rao
- **ACTORS** akshit Shetty, Rukmini Vasanth, Avinash, Achyuth Kumar, Ramesh Indira, Pavithra Lokesh
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 142 minutes

Sapta Sagaradaache Ello – Side A opens with Manu (Rakshit Shetty), who works as a driver for business tycoon Shekhar Gowda (Avinash), driving a high-end car at high speed along with his lover Priya (Rukmini Vasanth). Priya shouts at Manu to stop the car and tells him that he has to work with a monthly salary of Rs 12,000 for around 80 years to buy such a car if anything happens to the car because of rash driving. They decide to rent a house to live together. They also dream of having a house next to a beach.

Meanwhile, Shekhar Gowda's son is involved in a hit-and-run case. Prabhu (Achyuth Kumar) convinces Manu to take up the blame to save Gowda's son. Prabhu offers Rs 30 lakh, on behalf of Gowda, to Manu and pays Rs 3 lakh as an advance amount. Gowda promises to get Manu released on bail within three months. However, Gowda dies of cardiac arrest and Prabhu advises Gowda's wife not to help Manu. Priya waits for Manu to be released on bail. What happens to Manu is what the film is all about.

Director Hemanth M Rao has once again proved his mettle in handling the megaphone with aplomb for movies filled with love and emotion. He has successfully ensured all the actors follow the story. His USP is to ensure actors sharing screen space as per the importance of the characters they play in the movie.

As far as performance of the actors is concerned, Rakshit Shetty, known for portraying emotional characters, has proved his mettle once again in this movie. Rukmini looks beautiful. Her dialogue – Kaththe – that repeats many times makes audiences giggle for a while. The chemistry between Rakshit and Rukmini is good.

Ramesh Indira is convincing as a vicious prisoner who rules the roost in the prison. His dialogue delivery and gestures deserve appreciation. Gopal Deshpande, who plays a prisoner, has acted well. His dialogue about his wife who reluctantly visits the prison to see him, has a lot of meaning. Sharath Lohitasva, Pavithra Lokesh, Avinash provide good support. Achyuth Kumar plays a different character.

Charan Raj's music is soothing. The drawback of the movie is the slow narration during the pre-intermission session.

It is worth a watch for all those who love a love story.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

EPIC CASTING

Latest buzz on who will play Ram and Sita in forthcoming film Ramayan

Nitesh Tiwari is busy putting together an ambitious cast for his epic historical drama Ramayan. Buzz is that he has roped in Ranbir Kapoor to play the role of Ram, while 'KGF' star Yash has done a look test for the role of Raavan. There has been massive speculation over the casting of the leading lady, with Alia's name being associated with the same.

However, ETimes has some exclusive deets about the casting. An industry insider told ETimes, "Nitesh Tiwari has been busy with the casting of Ramayan. Sai Pallavi is the first choice for the role of Sita and she will be doing the look test for the same in November. If all goes well then the makers will finalize her for the movie." Sai marked her debut in films with Tamil movie 'Kasthuri Maan' in 2005 and over the years, she has worked in numerous Telugu and Malayalam movies too. If all goes well then Sai will mark her entry in Bollywood with this Nitesh Tiwari entertainer.

Recent buzz suggested that Alia Bhatt has been offered the part but she walked out of the project due to date issues. Denying the same, the source added, "Alia Bhatt was never approached for this role. Sai was the first preference and the makers are going ahead with her only, unless Nitesh Tiwari is not satisfied with the look test."

—ETimes

Movie to match global standards

RChandru of Kabzaa fame is all set to come out with a big announcement about the big ticket movie. Chandru, known for handling successful movies, has joined hands with Namma Kichcha Sudeep and well-known screenwriter Vijayendra Prasad who has written scripts for Telugu movies RRR and Bahubali. They are planning to make a big ticket movie on par with Hollywood movies. According to reliable sources, director R Chandru held discussions with Kichcha Sudeep and Vijayendra Prasad after which they decided to make the movie. Sources said the movie would be on global standards. The sources said the trio will meet again to discuss the plan further.

Vijayendra Prasad has written scripts for Kannada movies such as Kurubana Rani, Pandu Ranga Vittala, and Jaguar.

Chandru has handled the megaphone for multi-lingual movie Kabzaa in which Sudeep and Dr Shivarajkumar played key roles. Kabzaa was one of the biggest movies in the history of Sandalwood. Its sequel Kabzaa 2 is yet to be released. Chandru debuted as a director in Sandalwood with Kannada movie Taj Mahal that was released in 2008. Chandru has helmed 12 Kannada movies, including Mylari, Prem Kahani, Kanaka, and a Telugu movie Krishnamma Kalipindi Iddarini, a remake of Kannada movie Charminar.

If all goes well, the combination of Chandru, Sudeep, and Vijayendra Prasad is set to offer an entertainment bonanza for Sudeep's fans. **— BMB**

Case of a starry mistaken identity

Rajinikant made news recently when he paid a surprise visit to the BMTC bus depot 4 (pic).

The superstar is well known for his penchant for making surprise visits to various places in Bengaluru. Recently, one of Rajini's former colleagues, Raj Bahadur, shared a heartwarming incident that sheds light on his humility. According to Bahadur, during one of their visits to Raghanvendra Mutt near the Bull Temple, Rajinikanth decided to go incognito to avoid being recognised. Little did he know that this choice would lead to a touching encounter.

"While in disguise, Rajinikanth caught the attention of a compassionate woman who mistook him for a person in need. She offered him Rs 10 as a gesture of kindness. Rajinikanth, displaying his characteristic humility, accepted the offering and proceeded into the mutt. Later, to the woman's astonishment, Rajinikanth contributed a Rs 100 note for the Harati plate, a ritual offering. Curiosity got the better of her, and she followed Rajinikanth until she reached his car. There, she learned about the superstar's identity, and a mix of embarrassment and surprise washed over her. Rajinikanth, in his gracious manner, assured the woman that she had done nothing wrong and shared that he would cherish the Rs 10 as a memorable token," Bahadur said.

— Sridhar Vivan